

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING**

Arts Commission Conference Room
150 W. Market Street Suite 618
Indianapolis, Indiana
December 12, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

Dick Stifel, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Dick Stifel, Jeanne Mirro, Karen Ellerbrook, Sandi Clark, Lynn Jakubowski, Gilberto Cárdenas, Kelly Schreckengast, Bill Hopper, Irene Smith-King, Pam Hicks, Suzie Rentschler, Steve Tuchman

Members absent: Ron Stratten, Earl Williams

IAC staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Bobbie Garver, Susan Britsch, Kristina Davis, Rex Van Zant, April Blevins, Laura Frank, Emelita Tolentino, Sarah Heying, Dennis Hardin

Guests: Jeff Kuehl (outgoing RAP chair), Jan Shupert-Arick (incoming RAP chair), Michael Kos (State Budget Analyst), Lawren Mills (Office of the Governor)

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Mr. Stifel convened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves and mention a personal hobby.

2. **Consent Agenda.** Ms. Clark moved to accept the consent agenda. Ms. Mirro seconded. Motion passed.

3. **Chair's Report.** .

A. Mr. Stifel welcomed new commissioners Suzie Rentschler from Hartsville and Gilberto Cárdenas from South Bend, both of whom are attending their first business meeting.

B. Mr. Stifel reported that the governor's office has fully vetted the list of nominations for the post of commissioner previously submitted by IAC, and is very happy that Dr. Cárdenas was selected and confirmed from that list. However, it is now time to submit fresh nominations, and he asked that all commissioners submit at least one name for consideration. A form (included) was distributed for this purpose.. He then introduced Lawren Mills, who is now the governor's liaison for IAC, replacing Anne Valentine. He also introduced Michael Kos, who is a state budget analyst assisting IAC in matters of the budget. Mr. Stifel then deferred to Executive Director Lewis Ricci who outlined the budget changes that have been mandated on the state level for the remainder of FY2009. The result of these mandated changes is that an additional 3% hold-back will be required in all state agencies, as one measure to address a projected shortfall in tax revenues for the remainder of the fiscal year, and that these new cuts will apply to all areas of IAC operations, including grants, rather than just to administrative

costs, which had been the case for earlier budget cuts. Mr. Ricci asked for discussion of his plan to make small percentage cuts in all granting areas rather than eliminate any granting programs. These cuts will be manifested in the final grant payments made to grantees near the end of the fiscal year. The board offered general agreement and support for his plan. There was no vote taken.

C.. Mr. Stifel announced new standing committee assignments (handout included), which have been modified to include Mr. Cárdenas, Ms. Jakubowski and Ms. Hess, who was re-appointed for her second term.

4. Executive Director's Report.

A. Year-to-Date Financial Activity. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (included) showing YTD financial activity through October 31, 2008. IAC is on- or under-budget in all areas for this period. Mr. Ricci thanked Deputy Director Michelle Anderson for her hard work on the budget. He again remarked that further budget constraints may be imposed by the state budget office.

B. Mr. Ricci presented the proposed FY2010-2011 budget for IAC, which includes requests for \$3.98 million in state funds and \$735,900 in federal funds for each of the two fiscal years. He asked for approval of the budget request. Ms. Clark moved to approve the budget request. Ms. Hicks seconded. Motion passed. Further discussions will take place as more information is available from state government.

C. Mr. Ricci reported briefly that the Lincoln Public Art project is underway and on target for a June 12, 2009 dedication in Lincoln State Park. The June 2009 quarterly business meeting of the IAC will coincide with the dedication. He then presented an excerpt (attached) from the IAC application for funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. Funding from the NEA is based on a three-year cycle, and IAC has submitted its application which will be reviewed in January 2009 for approval.

D. Mr. Ricci reported briefly on the recent Marketing and Development Conference presented by Americans for the Arts. Held in Houston, Texas, it was attended by Mr. Ricci and IAC staff member Laura Frank.

Mr. Stifel declared a break in the meeting at 10:15 a.m. He reconvened the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

5. Committee Reports.

A. Committee on the Future. Sandi Clark, chair, reported on the new strategic planning process which will begin fully in January 2009. Plans include formation of a committee, scheduling public meetings, and appointing a facilitator for the process. Mr. Ron Stratten, former chair of IAC, is recommended by Executive Director Ricci to become facilitator. This suggestion was met with positive comments among the board. Ms. Rentschler moved that Ron Stratten be selected as facilitator for the next strategic planning process. Mr. Hopper seconded. Motion passed.

B. Program Evaluation Committee. Karen Ellerbrook, chair, reported that the committee voted on recommendations in two granting categories and asked for votes of approval. Ms. Schreckengast moved to approve the recommendations of the Program Evaluation Committee for funding in the Presenter Touring grant program. Mr. Stifel seconded. Grants in the amount of \$12,250 were recommended for approval to four arts organizations (Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra, Early Music in Motion, Honeywell Foundation and Dance Kaleidoscope). Motion passed. Mr. Stifel moved for approval of recommendations in the Arts Education Partnership Grants to Schools program. Ms. Mirro seconded. The committee recommended a total of \$111,930 be awarded among 16 schools whose applications were scored at 70 or above. Motion passed. (Handouts attached showing recipients.) Ms. Ellerbrook then asked RAP chair Jeff Kuehl and Deputy Director Michelle Anderson to review the process of re-writing the IAC – RAP policy manual. The changes were previously approved at the quarterly meeting of the Regional Arts Partners. Mr. Stifel moved for approval of the new version of the IAC – RAP Policy Manual. Ms. Clark seconded. Motion passed. (copy of new manual included). Ms. Ellerbrook asked IAC Community Development Manager Kristina Davis to report on newly-written guidelines and application for Cultural District status (copy included). Mr. Hopper moved to approve the guidelines and application. Ms. Mirro seconded. Motion passed. Ms. Ellerbrook reported that the committee had also discussed the question of whether an incarcerated citizen should be allowed to apply for grant money from IAC under the Individual Artist program. She asked that the full commission express its opinion on the question. Mr. Stifel asked for a written straw vote, which showed 9 commissioners in favor of allowing such an application from an incarcerated citizen, and 4 commissioners opposed.

C. Advocacy & Awareness Committee. Jeanne Mirro, chair, reported that plans are moving forward for the 2009 Governor's Arts Awards which will be held in Muncie. The tentative date is September 25, 2009. She also reported on progress of the "Imagine That!" publicity campaign, which is well under way but may be down-sized by budget cuts in the remainder of the fiscal year. Ms. Mirro also announced that March 12, 2009 will be Arts Advocacy Day at the Statehouse and encouraged everyone to plan to attend. She also reported that state senator Vi Simpson is planning to introduce further cultural districts legislation in the 2009 session.

D. Cultural Trust Advisory Board. Steve Tuchman, chair, reported on the latest figures from the Cultural Trust. As of October 31, 2008, the balance of the Trust was \$1,662,593.17. Mr. Van Zant briefly explained for new commissioners about the sale of Cultural Trust license plates as the monetary foundation for the Trust.

6. Regional Arts Partners. Jeff Kuehl, RAP chair, reported on the most recent meeting of the Regional Arts Partners. The previously mentioned IAC – RAP policy revisions were approved in the RAP meeting. He announced that his term as RAP chair has expired and that this is his last business meeting in that capacity. He will be replaced as RAP chair for the next year by Jan Shupert-Arick of Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne.

7. Old Business. There was no old business.

8. New Business. IAC Community Development Manager Bobbie Garver announced the upcoming cycle of Individual Artist panels which will begin in March; she distributed a sign-up sheet for commissioners to volunteer as facilitators for the panels.

9. Closing Comments. Mr. Stifel thanked everyone for their participation and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

10. Adjourn. Ms. Rentschler moved for adjournment. Ms. Mirro seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:37 p.m.